



---

# **A National Web Conference on the Use of Health IT to Improve Care Planning and Communication With Aging Adults**


**Presented by:**

David H. Gustafson, Ph.D.  
Charles Safran, M.D., M.S., FACMI  
Kevin Ponto, Ph.D.  
Eneida Mendonca, M.D., Ph.D.

**Moderated by:**

Shafa Al-Showk, M.P.H., CHES  
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

July 17, 2017



# Presenter and Moderator Disclosures

---

- Welcome and Introductions
- Presentations
- Q&A Session With Presenters
- Instructions for Obtaining CME Credits

**Note:** After today's Webinar, a copy of the slides will be emailed to all participants.



# Agenda

The following presenters and moderator have no financial interests to disclose:

- Kevin Ponto, Ph.D.
- Eneida Mendonca, M.D., Ph.D.
- Shafa Al-Showk, M.P.H., CHES

David H. Gustafson, Ph.D., would like to disclose that he owns stock in CNH Inc., is the principal for David Gustafson and Associates, and is a University of Wisconsin grant recipient.

Charles Safran, M.D., M.S., FACMI, would like to disclose that he is on the board of directors at Intelligent Medical Objects, is a consultant for Cerner, and is a foundation council member for Health on the Net Foundation.

This continuing education activity is managed and accredited by the Professional Education Services Group (PESG), in cooperation with AHRQ, AFYA, and RTI.

PESG, AHRQ, AFYA, and RTI staff have no financial interests to disclose.

Commercial support was not received for this activity.

# How to Submit a Question

- At any time during the presentation, type your question into the “Q&A” section of your WebEx Q&A panel.
- Please address your questions to “All Panelists” in the drop-down menu.
- Select “Send” to submit your question to the moderator.
- Questions will be read aloud by the moderator.



The screenshot displays the WebEx interface with two main panels: 'Participants' and 'Q&A'. The 'Q&A' panel is the active window, showing a list of participants under the heading 'Speaking:'. Below this, there are sections for 'Panelists: 2' and 'Attendees:'. At the bottom of the 'Q&A' panel, there is a text input field for asking a question. The 'Ask:' dropdown menu is set to 'All Panelists'. A 'Send' button is located at the bottom right of the Q&A panel. A red arrow points from the text instructions towards the 'Q&A' panel.

# Learning Objectives

---

At the conclusion of this activity, the participant will be able to do the following:

1. Describe the impact of a Web-based information and communication technology system (Elder Tree) aimed at connecting aging adults with family members, caregivers, other aging adults, and community resources on elder independence and quality of life.
2. Describe the development of a family-centered Web-based platform (InfoSAGE) to improve communication, coordination, and collaboration related to health care decisionmaking and care transitions for aging adults and their families.
3. Discuss the benefits of integrating a full-scale 3D model of a home with EHR data for aiding in care planning for aging adults.



# Staying Alive With Elder Tree: Design, Use, and Effect of a Computer System for Older Adults

**David H. Gustafson, Ph.D., Director**  
**Fiona McTavish, Deputy Director**  
**Dhavan Shah, Ph.D., Scientific Director**  
**John Lee, Ph.D.**  
**Jane Mahoney, M.D.**

**Center for Health Enhancement Systems Studies**





# Staying Alive: The Elder Tree Story



**Milwaukee County**



**Richland County**

Dave Gustafson  
speaking for many,  
many other  
colleagues



**Waukesha County**



**Major funding from  
the Agency for  
Healthcare Research  
and Quality**



# Agenda

---

- How we did CBPR?
- What did we produce? (Elder Tree)
- Differences with older adults?
- How did we evaluate it?
- What are we learning?
- New developments
- How are we disseminating?





# Our Job:

---

**Use CBPR to :  
keep older adults  
active and independent,  
& use technology to do it.**



# CBPR



## Asset-Based Community Development

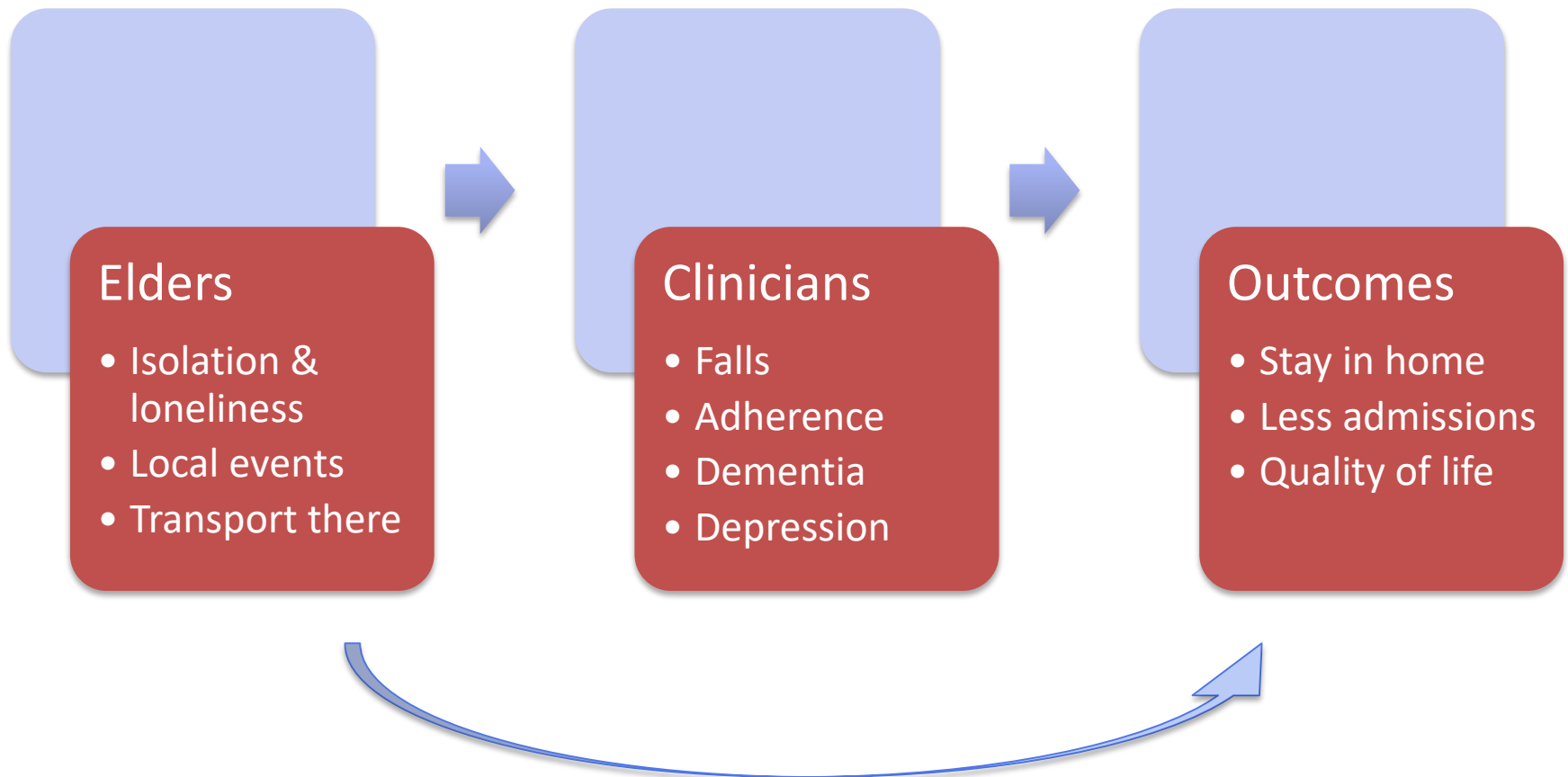
Assets & challenges identified

Associations; not institutions

Strategy team

300 conversations & asset-mapping

# Everyone is right.





---

# Elder Tree

Video Here

# Elder Tree Features

---

## Conversations

- Public Discussion
- Private Messages
- Family and Friends

## Information

- Local Resources
- Bulletin Board
- Active Living WIKI Tips

## Falls Prevention

- Falls Assessment
- Tailored Balance Exercises

## Transportation

- Monitor Driving
- Map Your Trip

## Personal

- Member Directory
- Games and Ice Breakers
- To-Do List
- My Health Tracker

## For Clinicians (new)

- Clinician Report

# Adaptations for Elderly

---

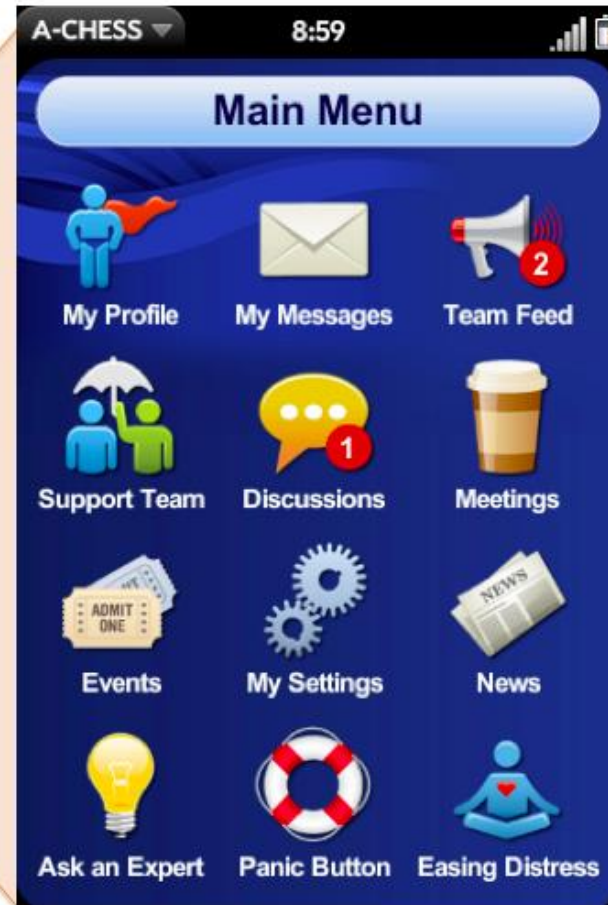
- Meet us where we are (senior centers).
  - Our hands tremble.
  - Coordination diminishes.
  - Our eyes are dimmer.
- So:
  - Large screen; no mouse (touch screen instead)
  - Keep it simple
  - Anytime training
  - Minimal data collection

# Typical CHES: too complex

**ACHES**



It is operating now!





# Keep it Simple




[Click Here to Watch a Video About Elder Tree](#)

  
Personal

  
Conversations

  
Information

  
Search

### Thought of the Day

It doesn't work to leap a twenty-foot chasm in two ten-foot jumps. American Proverb

[Home](#) | [Admin](#) | [My Profile](#) | [Members](#) | [About ElderTree](#) | [Logout](#)

Need Help with Elder Tree? Call 1-800-480-9223, Monday - Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm





eldertree  
Home

Personal

Conversations

2 New

Information

Search

 Elder Tree Help

## Conversations



Private  
Messages



Public  
Discussions



Family and  
Friends



Ask a Coach

[Home](#) | [Admin](#) | [My Profile](#) | [Members](#) | [About ElderTree](#) | [Logout](#)









Need Help with Elder Tree? Call 1-800-480-9223, Monday - Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm

	<b>Personal</b>	<b>Conversations</b> <b>2 New</b>	<b>Information</b>	<b>Search</b>	 <b>Elder Tree Help</b>
---	-----------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------	---------------	--

 [Back to Conversations](#)

## Discussions

Clear new message counts

 <b>Just Chatting</b> <b>1 new</b>	 <b>Religion / Spirituality</b> <b>1 new</b>
 <b>Health &amp; Wellness</b>	 <b>Caregiving Support</b>
 <b>Milwaukee County</b>	 <b>ElderTree Help</b>
 <b>Preventing a Fall</b>	 <b>Peace Tuesday Bible Study Group</b>

# Randomized Trial

---

- 399 older adults
- >100 each from urban, rural, and suburban
- Elder Tree vs. TAU
- Surveys at Pre, 6, 12, and 18 months
- Primary outcome at 12 months



# Eligibility Criteria

---

Older adults (65+)  
≥2 IADL

≥2 risk factors for nursing home admission:  
falls; caregiver burden; living alone; mood  
problems; no spouse, children, or siblings;  
received SNF rehab; ED visits; hospital or home  
health services





# Results

**Who are the Super- Posters?**

Compiled by Fiona McTavish

# Number of Messages Sent (in 6 months by 135 people)



**6003 messages posted**

**3272 in discussion group**

**2531 private messages**

  
Elder Tree

**Discussions**



New to Elder Tree  
Rosa



A beautiful day  
Tom



Advice on exercise?  
Emily

# Categories

---

**Didn't Post:** n = 36 26.7%  
(Never wrote message – the lurkers)

**Low Posters:** n = 39 28.9%  
(Wrote <1 message per month)

**Medium Posters:** n = 33 24.4%  
(Wrote  $\geq 1$  but <5 messages per month)

**Super Posters:** n = 27 20.0%  
(Wrote  $\geq 6$  messages per month)



# Live Alone

- Didn't Post: 47.2%
- Low: 48.7%
- Medium: 66.7%
- Super Posters: **88.9%**







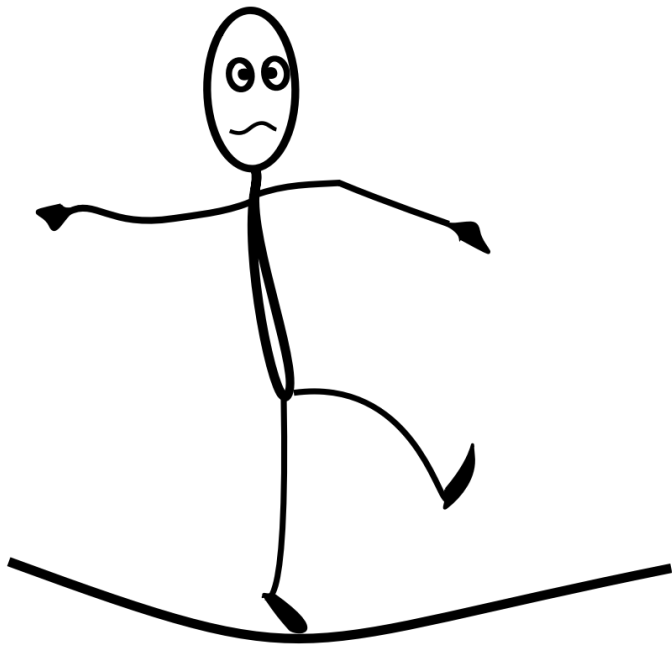
# Fell More Than Once in Last 12 Months



Didn't Post:	44.4%
Low:	30.8%
Medium:	27.3%
Super Posters:	<b>66.7%</b>



# Found Moving/Walking Around the Home Challenging or Difficult



Didn't Post: 17.1%

Low: 7.7%

Medium: 6.1%

Super Posters: **34.6%**

# Have Someone to Love and Make You Feel Wanted (most of the time)

---



Didn't Post: 52.8%

Low Posters: 55.3%

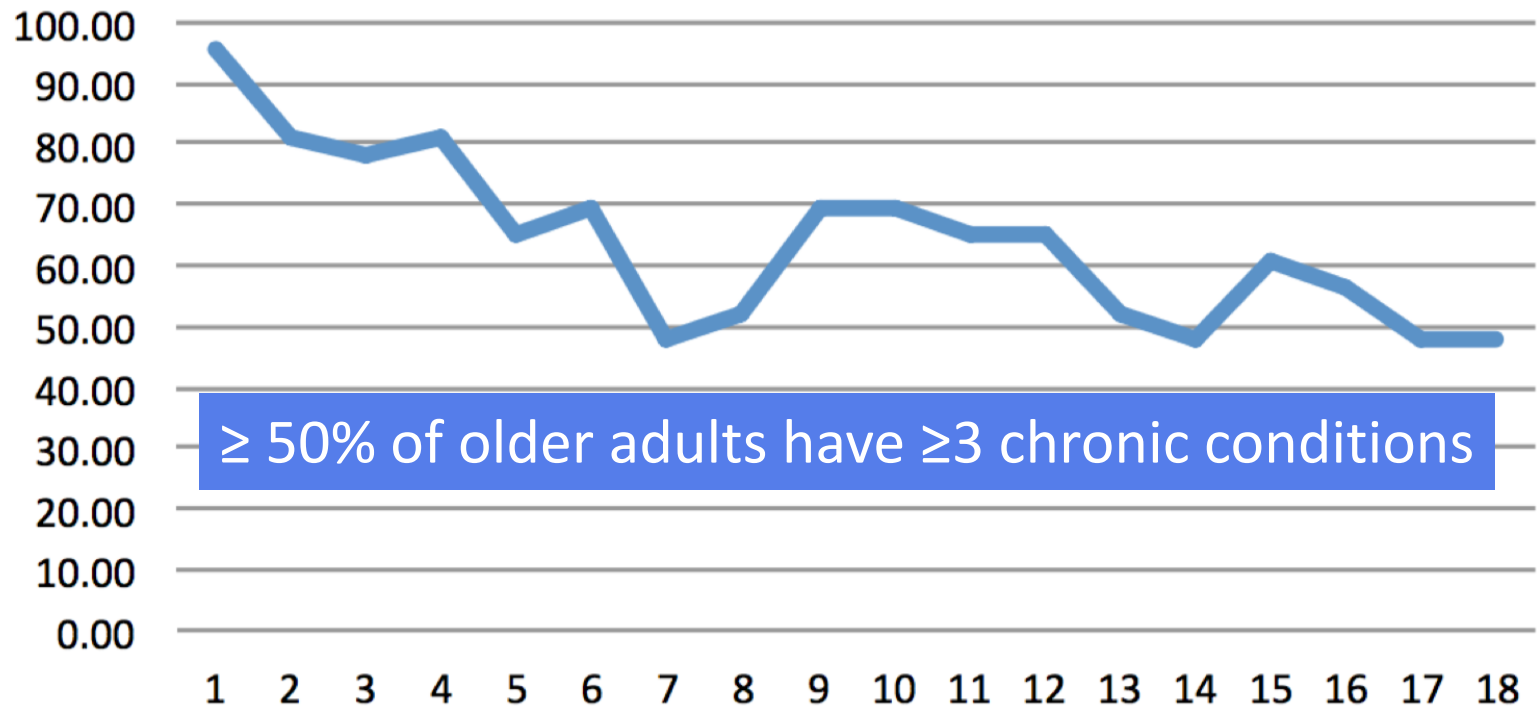
Medium Posters: **24.1%**

Super Posters: **26.9%**



# Elder Tree Statistics

**Percent of Elder Tree Participants with  $\geq 3$  Chronic Conditions -Using Elder Tree by Month**





# Impact

Compiled by Klaren Pe-Romasko  
Analysis by Rachel Kornfield and Juwon Hwang



# No Effect Overall

---

**No effect overall!**

**Then we did a moderator analysis.**

**Gender: No**

**Age: No**

**Number of primary care visits: Yes**

# Outcomes and p Values

## n = 306/390 – (78%)

---

- Quality of life p = .043
- Bonding p = .007
- Depression p = .023
- Falls risk p = .028
- Driving risk NS

Who are these high primary care users?



# Effect Sizes

## Effect Sizes

(Outcome data still being collected)

Chronic Condition Combinations	Sample Size	Quality of Life	More Support	Less Depressed	Less Symptom	Less HC Services
Obesity/BP/Lipids	8/11	.41	.40	.14	.66	.52
Arthritis/BP/Lipids	17/20	.18	.22	.07	.38	.38
Pain/BP/Arthritis	21/18	.44	.25	.32	.82	.12
All of the Above	29/29	.26	.27	.16	.52	.42

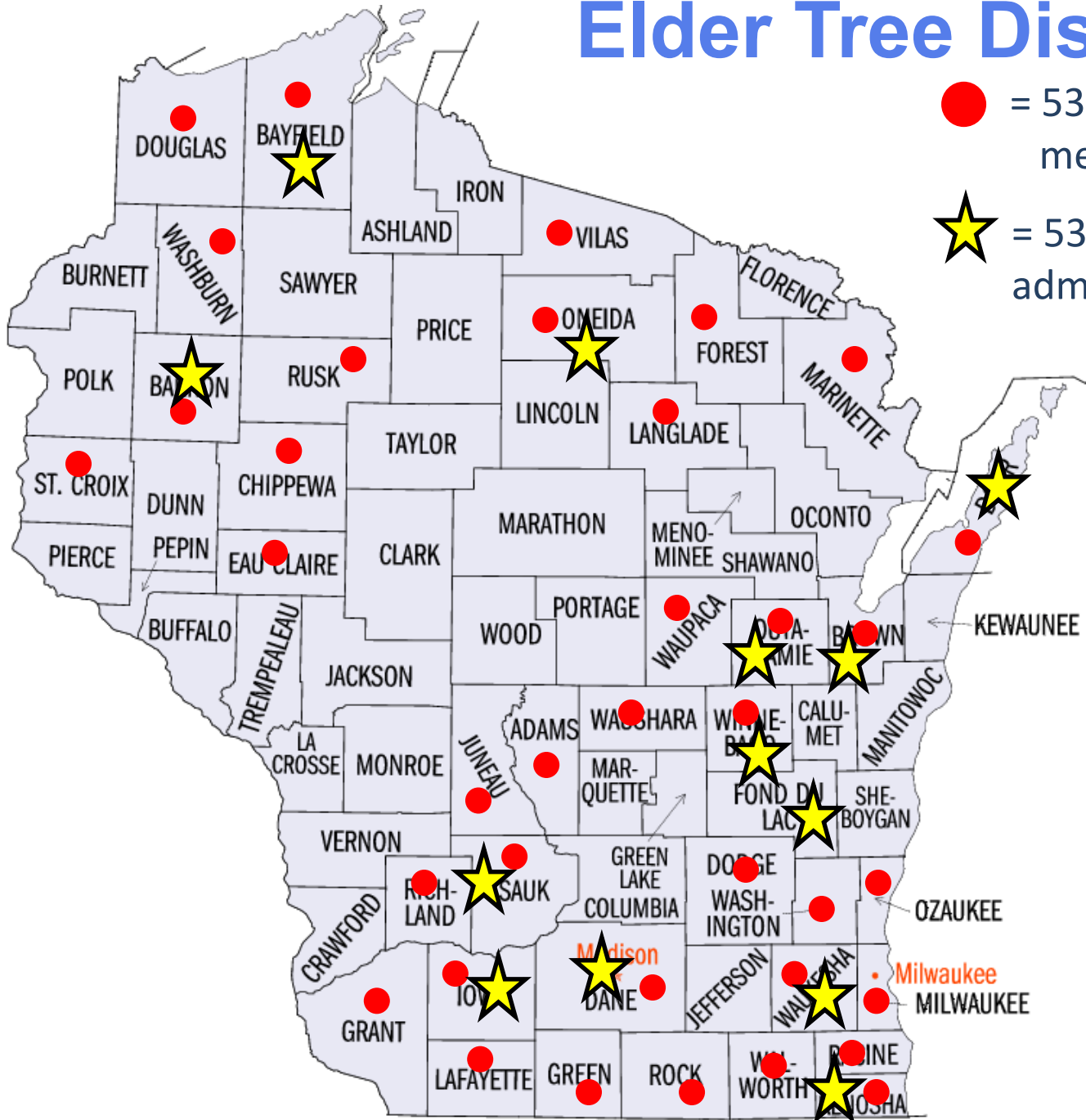




# Dissemination

---

# Elder Tree Dissemination



- = 53 counties w/ 600 members & growing
- ★ = 53 counties w/ community administrators & growing

# Elder Tree Community Administrators

## What's the purpose of Elder Tree *Community Administrators*?

- An Elder Tree **champion** in the community
- Trained and given **admin rights** to activate new users and create custom groups
- They provide a human touch to the technology

## Who are they?

- Senior center directors
- Librarians
- Aging professionals
- Church secretaries
- Civic group volunteers
- Social workers
- Meal program staff & volunteers
- Older adult volunteers





# Next Steps

---

- Multiple chronic conditions
- Link to clinical team
- American Family – no advertising still
  - Provide Chromebooks and hotspots
  - Agent give ET to customers
  - IL, MN, IA, and WI
- United Healthcare????
  - Dual eligibles
  - WI, OH, AZ, TX, and KS

# What Have We Learned?

---

- **Volunteers are great; be clear on expectations.**
- **Focusing on assets can be very helpful.**
- **ABCD & research have different agendas.**
- **Deeply understand your customer.**
- **Link to the health care system.**
- **Communication is key.**



# Contact Information

---

David Gustafson

[dhgustaf@wisc.edu](mailto:dhgustaf@wisc.edu)



# Leveraging Private Social Networks for the Care of Elderly Patients

**Charles Safran, M.D.**

Chief, Division of Clinical Informatics,  
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Professor of Medicine,  
Harvard Medical School

# Learning Objectives

---

- Recognize the unique challenges of care coordination for elders and their families.
- Describe how clinical informatics can be used to improve communication, coordination, and collaboration in the care of elders.
- Discuss strategies for the use of smartphones in community-based care.



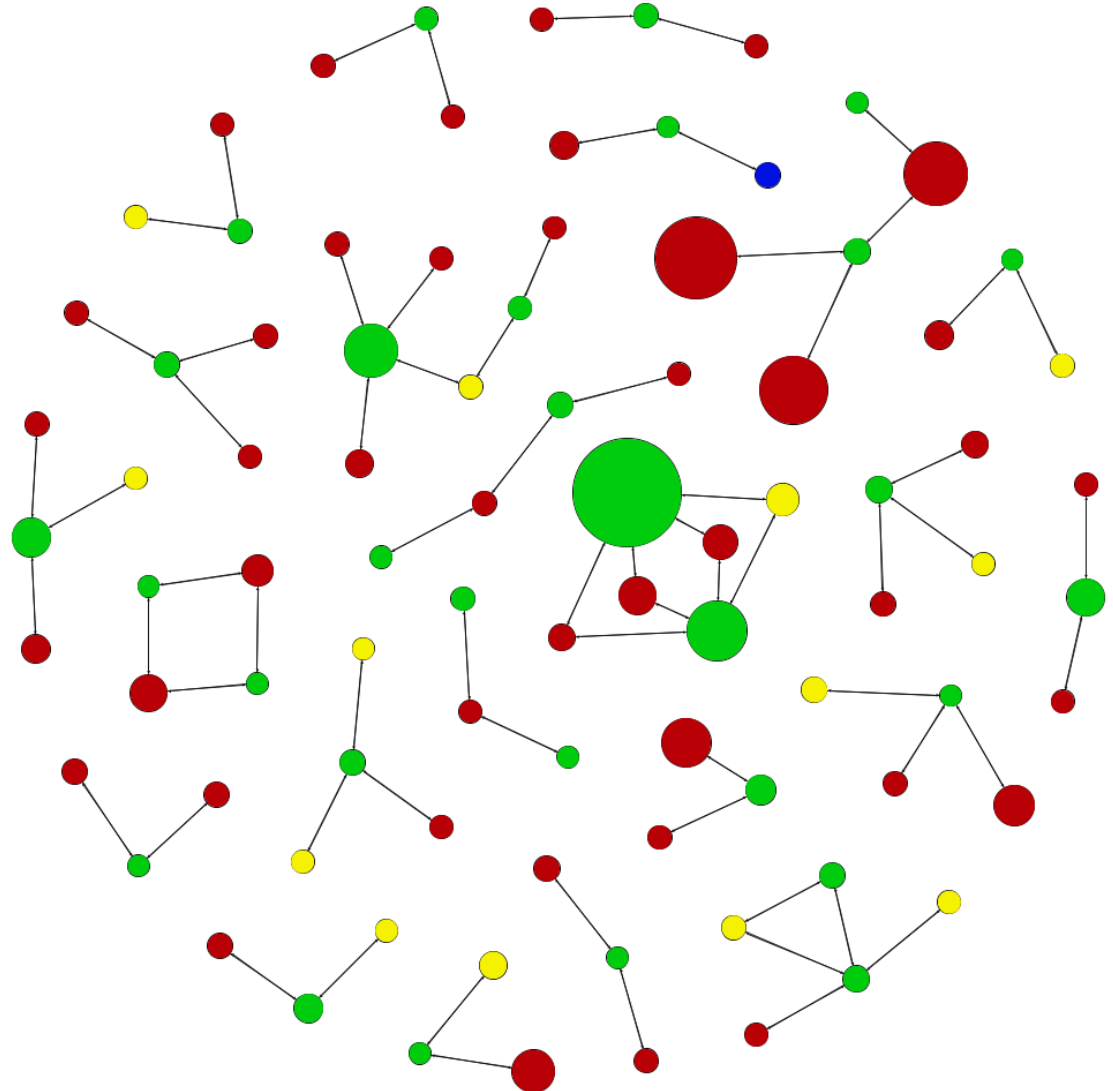
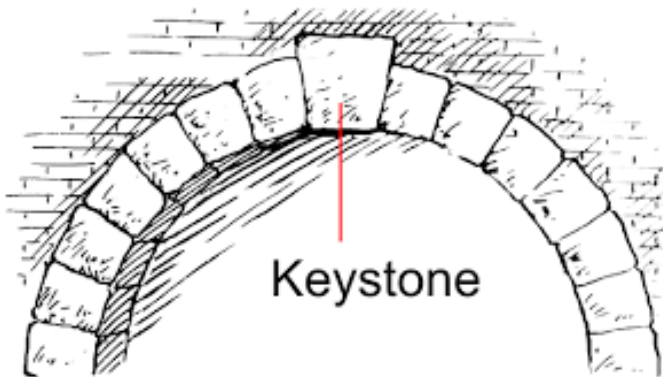
- InfoSAGE provides families with a *private social network* to help them care for aging family members.
- InfoSAGE users comprise a *living laboratory* to study family-centered tools designed to enhance care coordination and improve medication safety.





# Networks of Families

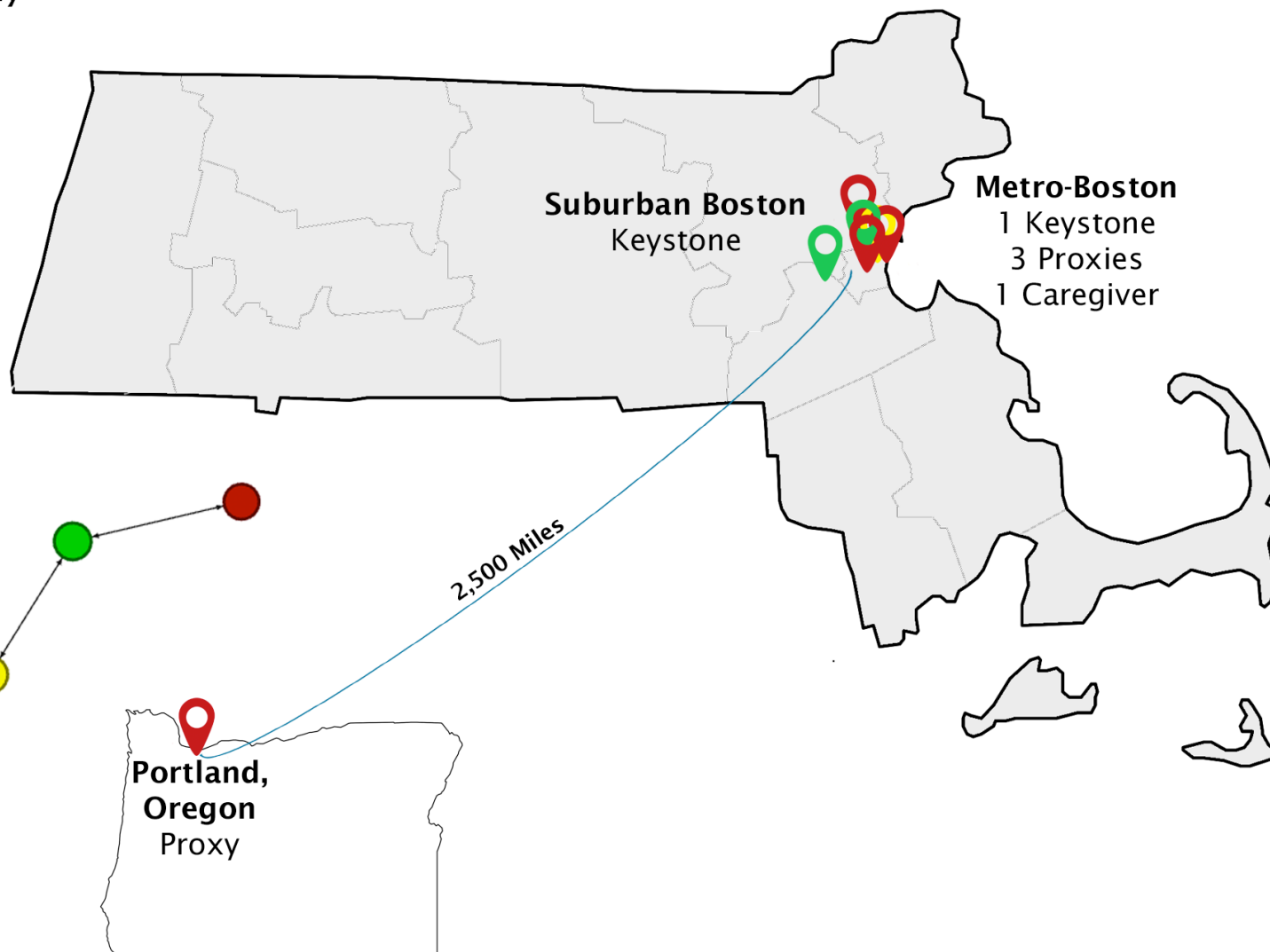
- Keystone
- Proxy
- Caregiver
- Participant





## A Boston Area Family

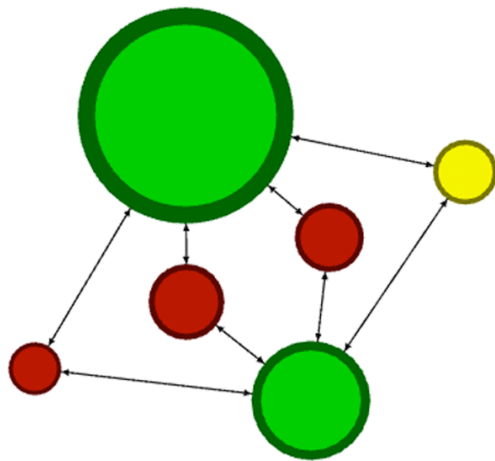
2 Keystones  
4 Proxies  
1 Caregiver





## A Californian Family

- 2 Keystones
- 3 Proxies
- 1 Caregiver





# Outline

- The Problem
- The Design
- Early Findings
- Reflections



# The Problem

---

Aging creates health care decisionmaking, information management, and communication challenges for elders and their families.

Care coordination is exceptionally challenging.



Respecting the elder's preferences and priorities is often lost in transition.



# Case

---

AB is a 94 yo WF admitted 5/1/15 with altered MS and FTT.

**HPI**      Seen in Geriatric practice (on a Friday afternoon) and noticed to be hypertensive and noticeably weaker than previous visit and sent to EW.

Increasing fatigue 2w, decreased appetite, difficulty ambulating.

Recurrent falls without headstrike. No abd pain or dysuria.

**Soc Hx**    Widow, lives at home with 24/7 care. Daughters actively involved.



# Medications on Admission

---

1. Fosamax (Alendronate Sodium) 35 mg PO QSUN
2. Atorvastatin 40 mg PO QPM
3. Celexa (Citalopram) 40 mg PO QD
4. Estrogens Conjugated 1 gm VG 2X/WEEK (SU, WE)
5. Desmopressin Acetate 0.2–0.4 mg PO QHS
6. Levothyroxine Sodium 100 mcg PO QD
7. Ascorbic Acid 1000 mg PO QD
8. Aspirin 81 mg PO QD
9. Zyrtec (Cetirizine) 10 mg PO QD
10. PreserVision Lutein  
(vit C-vit E-copper-ZnOx-Lutein) 226-200-5-0.8 mg-unit-mg-mg PO QD
11. Calcium Carbonate 1600 mg QHS
12. Probiotic Formula (bacillus coagulans-inulin) 1 billion-250 cell – mg PO BID
13. Senna 8.6 mg PO QD
14. Vitamin A dose unknown QD
15. Vitamin E dose unknown QD



# Home Medication List

	Meds as of July 1, 2015 (Donna)	
	Synthroid 100mg (.1mg?)	upon awakening
	Lasix Furosemide 20mg	morning
or	Citalopram HBR Celexa 40mg	morning
	Protonix Pantaprisole 40mg (foracid)	morning
	Os-Cal Calcium + D <sub>3</sub> 500mg	or as needed once a day morning or noon
	Probiotic Phillips or (Florastor 250 2 a day)	once a day
	Activia	once or twice a day
	Multi Vitamin Centrum Silver	noon
	Senokot	every day or as needed
	Miralax Powder in water	as needed
	Colase (CVS Stool Softener)	as needed
	OcuVite Preserve Vision	noon
	Bayer Aspirin 81mg	evening
	Zyrtec (or Claritin)	as needed evening
	Triazolam 0.25mg	as needed at bed time

# The Challenge

---

- Poor communication, coordination, and collaboration with care system.
- Community resources fragmented.
- Burden on children can become part-time job.
- Cognitive and physical function wax and wane.
- Demographics create a worldwide imperative!



# Elders' Use of Technology

---

	Internet Use	Broadband	Smart Phone	Social Media
65-69 (n=531)	74	65	29	54
70-74 (n=401)	68	55	21	42
75-79 (n=244)	47	34	10	46
80+ (n=360)	37	21	5	27

*Pew Research Center, April 2014*

# Design of InfoSAGE™

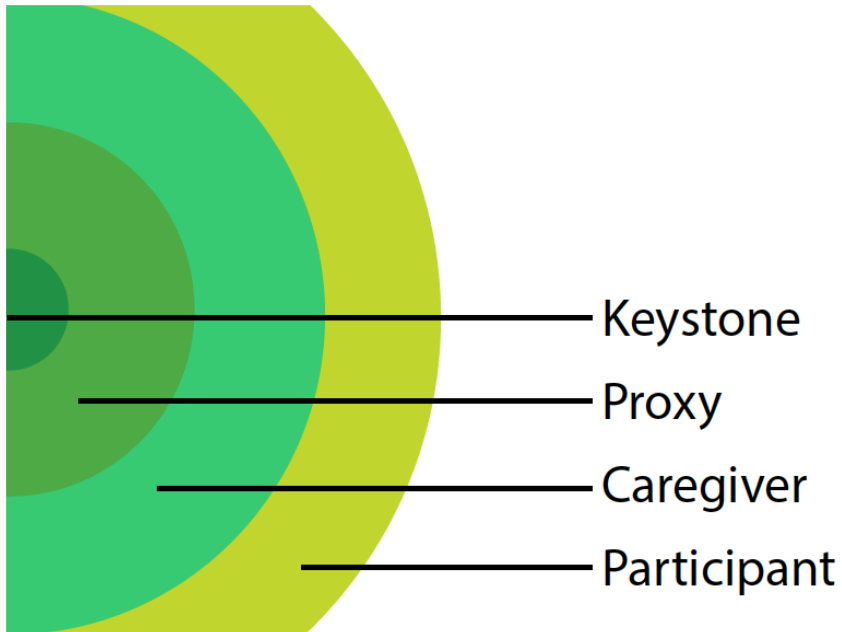
---

- User
  - Keystone
  - Family
  - Both
- Intuitive
- Building network around Keystone
- **Control and confidentiality**
- Online recruitment into clinical trial





# Design of



Build Network	Edit Medications	View Medications	Add Help List Tasks	Volunteer For Tasks	Communication
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		✓	✓	✓	✓
			✓	✓	✓

**InfoSAGEHealth.org**




# Cloud-based Medication List

AT&T 3:22 PM

InfoSAGE

Active Inactive

 Adele Brown  
Last Edit: Wed, Mar 8, 2017, 2:43 PM

Medications Sort by: [Name](#)

[Show Medication Interactions](#)

[+ Add New Medication](#) [Expand All](#)

Calcium Carbonate / Cholecalciferol (...)

Cetirizine (Zyrtec)

Citalopram

Cranberry Preparation

Docusate

Levothyroxine (Synthroid)

Saccharomyces Boulardii (Florastor)

Sennosides, Usp (Senokot)

[EMAIL](#) [PRINT](#)

AT&T 3:01 PM

InfoSAGE


Active Inactive

Medications Sort by: [Name](#)

[Show Medication Interactions](#)

[+ Add New Medication](#) [Collapse All](#)

Citalopram





Name: Citalopram


Dose: 40 milligrams (mg)


Frequency: Once Daily

Reason: Dementia

 Shared

 Active

 Details

 Edit

[EMAIL](#) [PRINT](#)

AT&T 2:57 PM

Medication Interactions

If you have any questions regarding these interactions, please contact your care provider or pharmacist.

Drugs that interact

Hide this interaction

Citalopram & Levothyroxine

Description: The serum concentration of Citalopram can be decreased when it is combined with Levothyroxine.

Calcium Carbonate & Levothyroxine

Description: The therapeutic efficacy of Levothyroxine can be decreased when used in combination with Calcium carbonate.

Citalopram & Triazolam

Description: The risk or severity of adverse effects can be increased when Triazolam is combined with Citalopram.

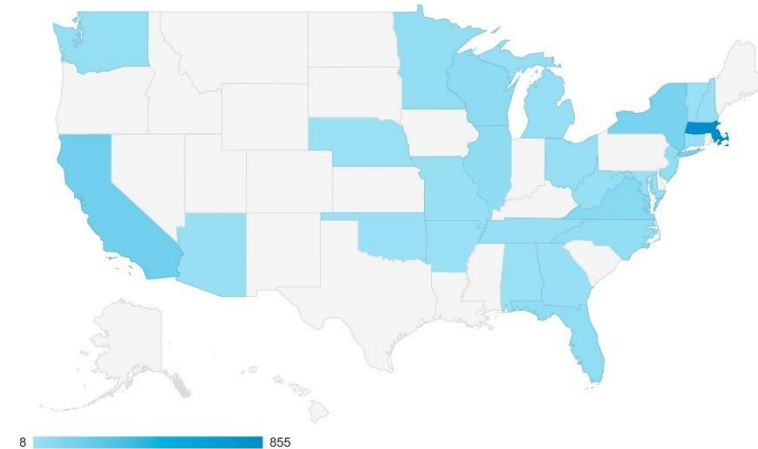
Triazolam & Cetirizine

Description: The risk or severity of

# InfoSAGE™ Use

Jan 2015 thru June 2017

	Sessions	Users	Pages	Duration (min)
Total USA	1,787	1,162	6.0	5:39
Massachusetts	857	434	8.4	8:58
California	181	158	3.5	2:43
New York	143	107	2.8	2:23
Virginia	91	75	4.3	1:15
Wisconsin	65	38	7.2	7:03
Illinois	60	49	2.1	1:04
Florida	48	43	3.4	2:07
Minnesota	39	24	4.7	4:00
North Carolina	39	35	3.2	3:04
New Jersey	37	32	3.7	0:56





# Key Observations

---

- Elders and their families in this study were able to use advanced technologies to create an online network, add medications and messages.
- Families' networks have formed that include spouses, children, grandchildren, and caregivers.
- Enrolled families are also geographically spread out, ranging from different neighborhoods within a city to spread out across the country.
- Our results show promising opportunities for more advanced online care coordination for elders and their families.





# Summary



- 
- InfoSage is a private social network for family-based and community-centric care.
  - Families are geographically dispersed
  - While designed to support the care of frail elderly, also works for families where loved-ones have diabetes, cancer, or other high impact chronic illness.



# Acknowledgments



Warner Slack  
Brad Crotty  
Yuri Quintana  
Jacqueline Obrien  
Meghan Dierks  
Henry Feldman  
Ruchira Jain  
Adarsha Bajracharya  
Janice Walker

Roger Davis  
Max Gorenberg  
David Skerry  
Lew Lipsitz  
Jason Rightmeyer  
Eran Metzger  
Elizabeth Howard  
Dee Engorn



---

An Academic Division of the Dept of Medicine  
at Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians at BIDMC, Inc.



[www.infosagehealth.org](http://www.infosagehealth.org)



# Contact Information

---

Charles Safran

[csafran@bidmc.harvard.edu](mailto:csafran@bidmc.harvard.edu)



# Virtualized Homes: Tools for Better Discharge Planning

**Kevin Ponto, Ph.D.**

**Eneida Mendonca, M.D., Ph.D.**

University of Wisconsin-Madison



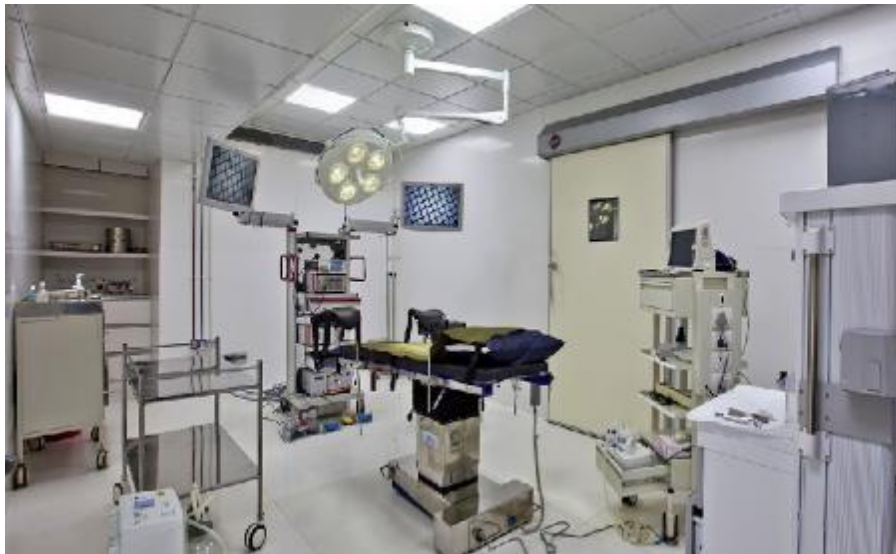
# History

## Project health design





## Context of home environment



Hospital environment



Home environment



# History

---

## AHRQ R01 vizHOME Project







# History

---

## Virtual reality





# History

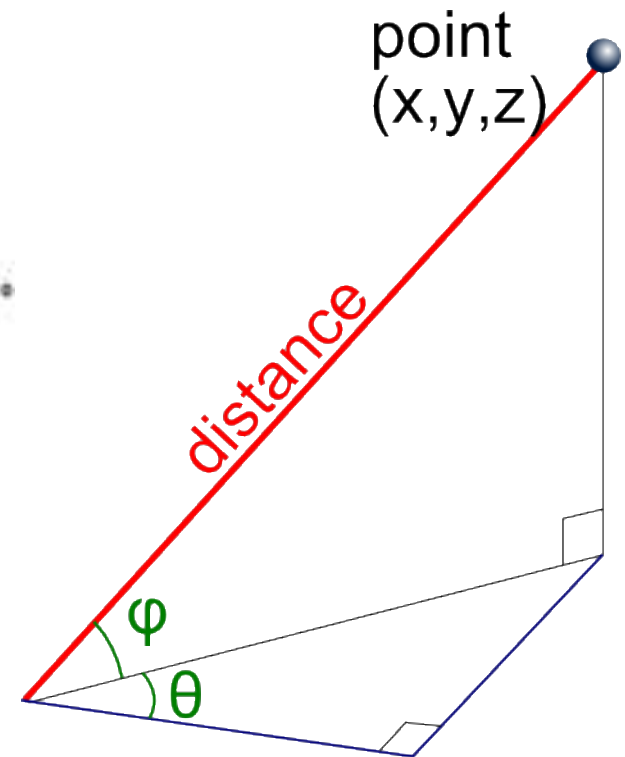
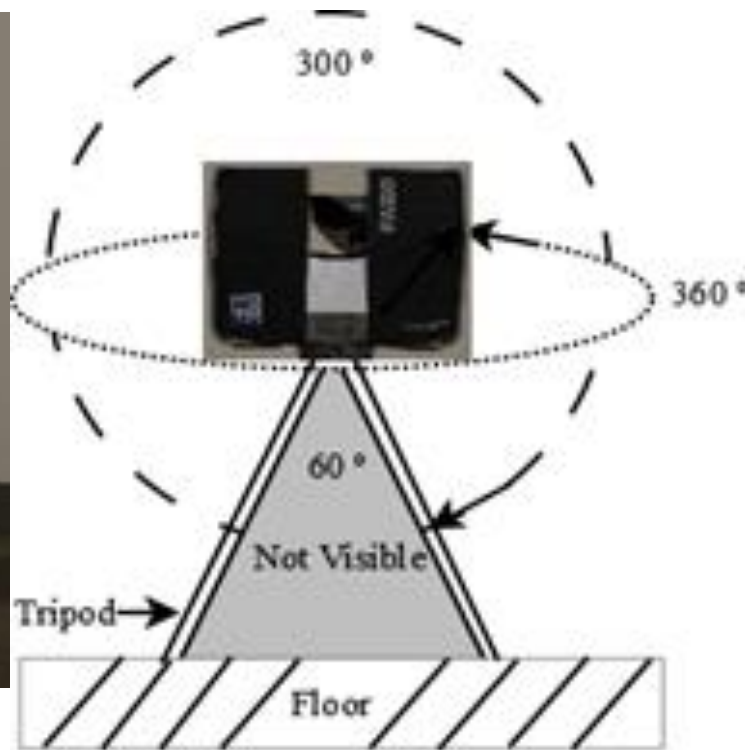
---

## Simulated virtual environments



# History

## 3D capture technology





# History

## Virtual reality visualization





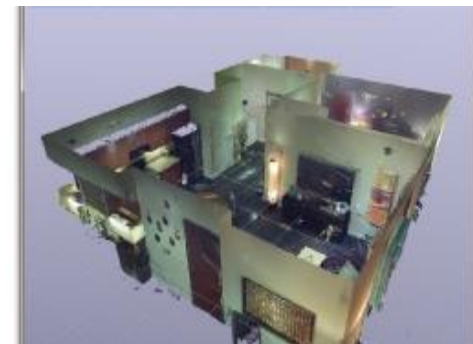
# Subsequent Research

Crime scene  
investigation



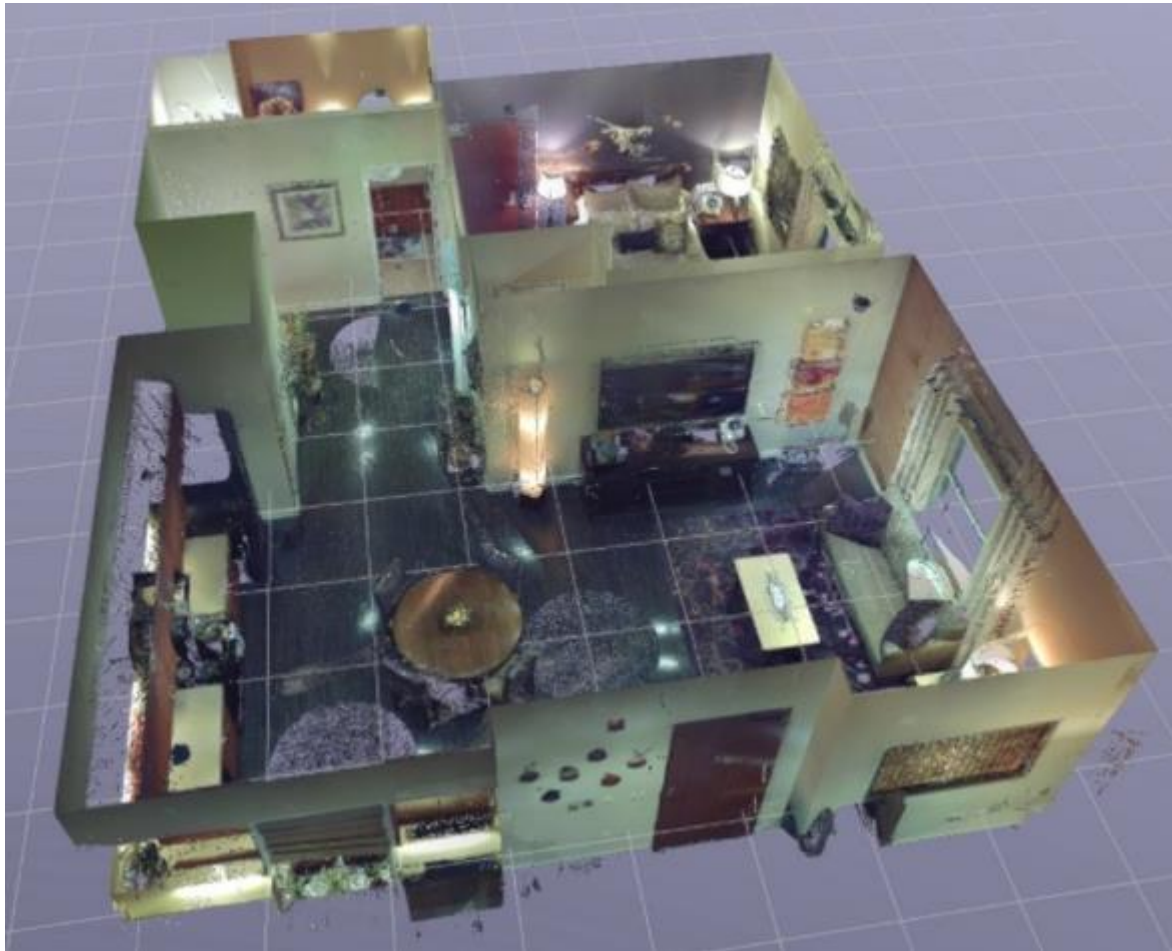
Cultural  
heritage

Discharge  
planning





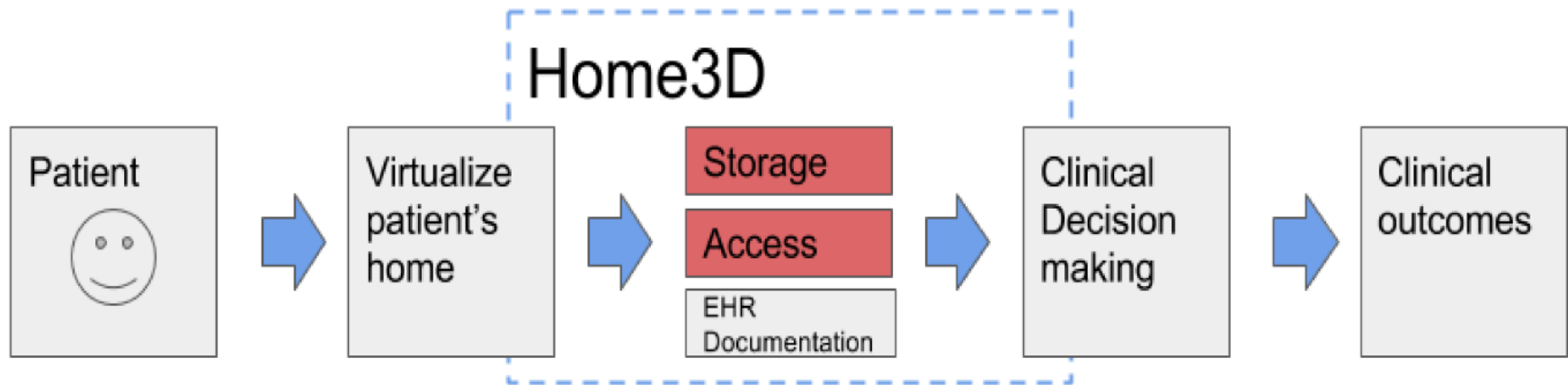
# Virtualized Homes



AHRQ R03HS024623 - Home 3D

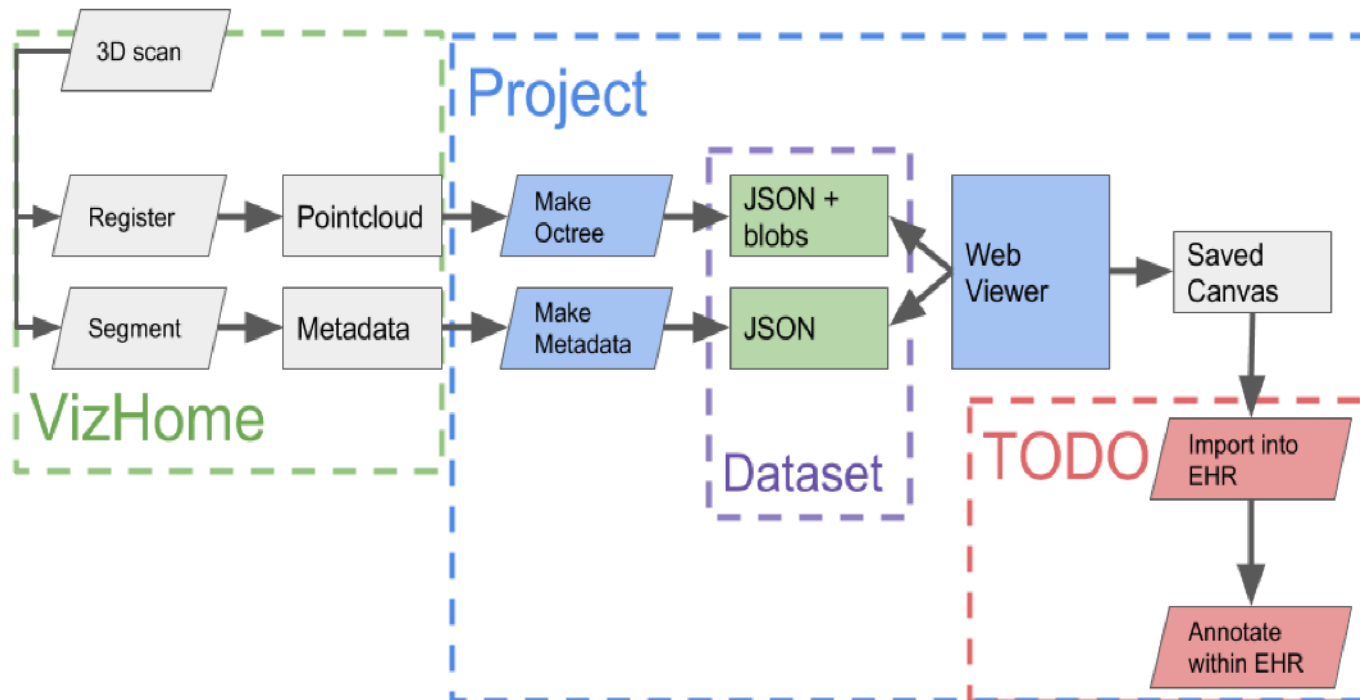
# Virtualized Homes

Extends the VizHome project by providing access to capture point cloud data to health care professionals through EHR implementations.



# Virtualized Homes: Data Flow

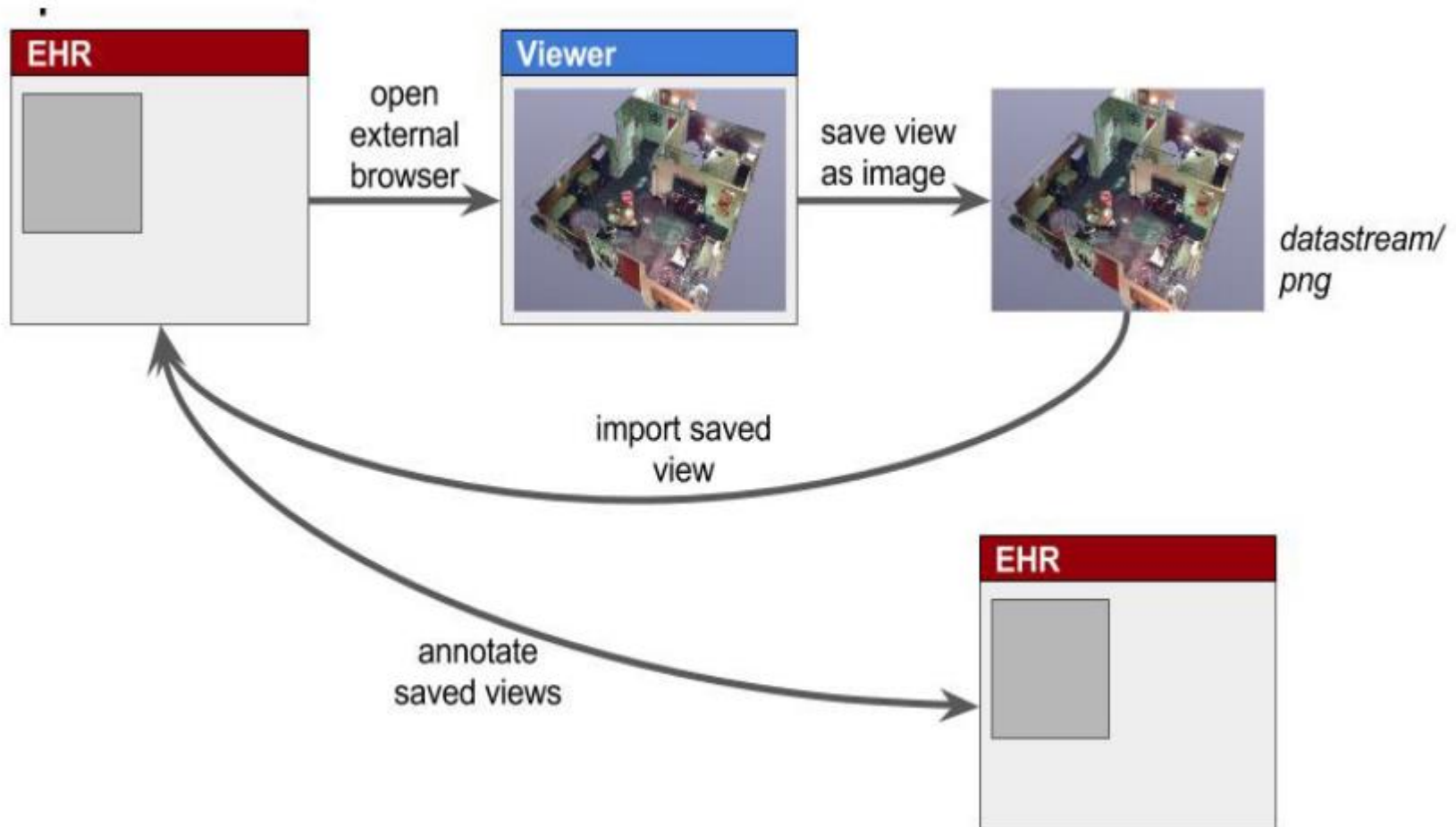
We create, process, and store both 3D point cloud data as well as textual metadata, based on the Getty Art & Architecture Thesaurus to describe home environment.







# Virtualized Homes: EHR Integration



# Virtualized Homes: Focus Groups

---

“... You know, many times people get sent home with a walker, and it gets parked outside the front door because the pathways are literally 12 inches wide to go anywhere, so there’s no feasible way a walker would fit through there. But a patient doesn’t tell you that in the inpatient setting. But in that case, you know, in the hospital, maybe we’d better be practicing with canes to see if they can get through. You know, those would be nice things to know on the front end.”

# Virtualized Homes: Focus Groups

---

“... You know, I feel like in, again, on the inpatient basis, we do home safety education. We talk about, you know, if you have any throw rugs, let’s get those up. ... I feel like that might help some of the education piece stick a little bit more.”



# Contact Information

---

Kevin Ponto

[kbponto@wisc.edu](mailto:kbponto@wisc.edu)

Eneida Mendonca

[emendonca@wisc.edu](mailto:emendonca@wisc.edu)



# How to Submit a Question

- At any time during the presentation, type your question into the “Q&A” section of your WebEx Q&A panel.
- Please address your questions to “All Panelists” in the drop-down menu.
- Select “Send” to submit your question to the moderator.
- Questions will be read aloud by the moderator.

The screenshot shows the WebEx interface with the 'Q&A' tab selected. The 'Participants' tab is also visible. The 'Q&A' section shows a list of participants (Panelists: 2, Attendees: 0) and a text input field for asking a question. A red arrow points to the 'Send' button.

# Obtaining CME/CE Credits

---

If you would like to receive continuing education credit  
for this activity, please visit

<http://hitwebinar.cds.pesgce.com/eindex.php>